

REMARKS

Applicant encloses herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to the now pending claims of the above-identified application. It is noted that the Examiner rejected claims 2 and 3 as claiming the same invention as claims 2 and 3 of the prior U.S. Patent 6,726,484. It is noted, however, that claims 2 and 3 are dependent upon claim 1 which is different relative to the claims of the prior Patent No. 6,726,484. Thus, it is believed that the scope of the claims of 2 and 3 is also different. As a consequence, it is believed that the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer overcomes the double-patenting rejection. To the extent that the Examiner disagrees with this assessment, applicant is willing to withdraw claims 2 and 3. However, it is believed that the scope of those inventions, even though directed to common subject matter, is distinct inasmuch as claims 2 and 3 are dependant upon claim 1 as currently pending.

It is further noted that a slight typographical error has been corrected in the Amended claim 1.

Further, it is noted that claims 5-11 were submitted previously by amendment of May 4, 2004, which amendment apparently crossed in the mail with respect to the Official Action of May 4, 2004. Applicant believes that the claims 5-11 as presented are allowable, and that to the extent that double-patenting rejection can be made with respect thereto, the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer will apply.

Therefore, favorable reconsideration of the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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